

REMARKS

Claim 6 was objected to. Claims 1, 2, 6, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jurkewitz. Claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jurkewitz alone or in combination with Saiano.

Claim 6 has been amended, and restricted out claim 12 canceled without prejudice. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 6, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jurkewitz.

Jurkewitz describes a method for regulating web tension in an offset printing press. A regulating device with a dancer roller is positioned between a web stand and printing units. Figs. 2 and 3 show the pressure of a pneumatic cylinder as a function of the web speed.

As described by Jurkewitz in column 4, line 55 to column 5, line 35, the pressure of the pneumatic cylinder is dependent solely on web speed

Claim 1 of the present application recites:

increasing an infeed tension in the web between the infeed and the printing units when the printing units change to a printing mode from a white web mode; and

decreasing the infeed tension in the web when the printing units change from the printing mode to the white web mode.

A white web mode is one in which the web is running through the press but is not being printed. (See present specification at page 7, lines 24 to 25). The present invention permits altering the web tension when the press is switched between the printing mode and white web mode.

Jurkewitz does not disclose at all “increasing an infeed tension...when the printing units change to a printing mode from a white web mode” nor “decreasing the tension... when the printing units change from the printing mode to the white web mode.”

Jurkewitz does not disclose altering infeed tension during a change from a printing mode to a white web mode at all. Jurkewitz controls a pressure P in a pneumatic cylinder based on web speed, not on the printing mode. See Background Section of the present application at page

2, lines 21 to 29. If the press was operating at a constant speed and the printing mode changed, Jurkewitz would not change the pressure in the pneumatic cylinder at all. Jurkewitz thus suffers from the same problems of the prior art discussed in the Background Section, namely that when a web changes printing modes, there is a tension change that is not compensated for.

Claim 6 recites a controller for controlling the tension in the web between the infeed and the at least one printing unit and the tension after the at least one printing unit, the controller controlling the tension between the infeed and the at least one printing unit as a function of a transition between the printing mode and the white web mode.

Jurkewitz does not show a controller controlling tension as a function of a transition between the printing mode and white web mode.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) to claims 1 and 6 and dependent claims 2, 10 and 11 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jurkewitz alone or in combination with Saiano.

Saiano does not disclose controlling tension as a function of a transition between a printing mode and the white web mode.

In view of the comments with respect to claims 1 and 6 above, withdrawal of the rejection to dependent claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 is also respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

No fee is believed required. If any fee is required at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By:



William C. Gehris

Reg. No. 38,156

Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC

485 Seventh Avenue, 14th Floor

New York, New York 10018

(212) 736-1940



Application of:

Kevin Francis ALBERT, et al.

Serial No.:

09/534,466

Filed:

March 24, 2000

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VERSION SHOWING CLAIM CHANGES

IN THE CLAIMS

6. (Amended) A web printing press comprising:

an infeed for providing a web of material to be printed;

at least one printing unit for printing the web, the printing unit having a printing mode and a white web mode;

a folder for cutting the web into signatures; and

a controller for controlling the tension in the web between the infeed and the at least one printing unit[s] and the tension after the at least one printing unit[s], the controller controlling the tension between the infeed and the at least one printing unit as a function of a transition between the printing mode and the white web mode.

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JUN 25 2002

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